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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

March 8, 1993

Room 222
Dockets #805

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7330-7/1700A3

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AUG 11 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Trent Lott
United States Senator
P. O. Box 1474
Oxford, Mississippi 38655

Dear Senator Lott:

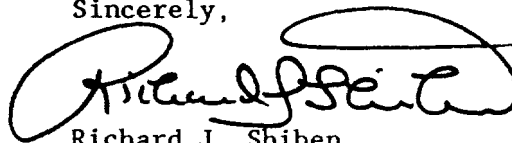
This is in reply to your letters of February 16 and 17, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituents' concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Your constituents' letters will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Shiben
Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division
Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures

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TRÉNT LOTT
MISSISSIPPI

CHAIRMAN:
COMMITTEE ON
COMMITTEES

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2403

February 17, 1993

PRB
92-235
805

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION
BUDGET

P. O. Box 1474
Oxford, MS 38655
601-234-3774

Mr. Alfred C. Sikes, Chair
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Congressional and Public Affairs
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

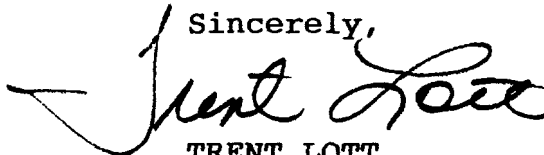
Re: Brett Horton
Route 7 Box 431
Corinth, MS 38834-9189

Dear Al:

Please allow me this opportunity to express my interest in the above referenced constituent's case. I am confident that you will give this matter every possible consideration and respectfully request that you keep my Oxford office apprised of developments.

With high regards, I am

Sincerely,



TRENT LOTT
U. S. Senator

TL/egh
Enclosure

The Honorable Trent Lott
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Feb. 8, 1993

Dear Senator Lott:

I have derived many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio controlled airplanes since entering the hobby eleven years ago. I am very active in a local model aviation club and have held the office of Secretary-treasurer for two years.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The preceding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other. We just completed the change to our 50 new frequencies in 1991. This change included upgrading our radio equipment at a considerable expense to narrower bandwidth so that we could use all 50 of the new frequencies safely.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans of up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby/sport provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72 -76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

Brett Horton